



## Commercially Available Hybrid Electric, Low-Speed Vehicles not Eligible for EPAct Credit

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has received inquiries from fleet representatives about the eligibility of hybrid-electric and low-speed vehicles for credits under the Energy Policy Act's (EPAct) Alternative Fuel Transportation Program (10 C.F.R., Section 508). At this time, commercially available models of these vehicles do not meet the requirements of the program and are ineligible to earn credits. Any other future guidance about this program will be communicated in upcoming compliance advisories available on the Web site at [www.ott.doe.gov/epact](http://www.ott.doe.gov/epact) (click on State & Alternative Fuel Provider Program).

### Hybrid-Electric Vehicles

According to 10 C.F.R., Part 490, Section 490.2, a hybrid electric vehicle (HEV) is a vehicle that:

- Has an energy conversion unit, such as a combustion engine or fuel cell;
- Has an energy storage device, such as batteries or ultracapacitors; and
- Is primarily powered by the electric motor.

Commercially available HEVs, such as the Toyota Prius and Honda Insight, while beneficial in their energy efficient design, do not meet these criteria because they are not primarily powered by an electric motor.

Although HEVs are not currently allowed for credits under the Alternative Fuel Transportation Program, DOE supports and encourages the voluntary use of HEVs because they are more energy efficient than many vehicles on the road.

### Low-Speed Vehicles

Low-speed vehicles (LSVs) do not meet the requirements of the Alternative Fuel Transportation Program and are ineligible for credits. LSVs, which can reach speeds up to 25 mph, fall short of the program's definition of vehicles eligible for credits under the program (10 C.F.R. Part 490, Section 490.2).

DOE supports and encourages the voluntary use of LSVs because they are more energy efficient than many vehicles on the road.



For more information on the Alternative Fuel Transportation Program, call (202) 586-9171, or visit the EPAct Web site at [www.ott.doe.gov/epact](http://www.ott.doe.gov/epact).

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